

**Listing of Claims:**

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): A method comprising:

determining at least two meaningful words in a program title of an electronic program guide, wherein each of the at least two meaningful words appears at least once in a database;

determining a less descriptive word from the at least two meaningful words based on a frequency ~~that with which~~ each of the at least two meaningful words appear in ~~a~~ the database;

selectively removing the less descriptive word from the program title to create an abbreviated program title; and

displaying the abbreviated program title in a program title field of the electronic program guide.

Claim 2 (Canceled).

Claim 3 (Previously Presented): The method of claim 1, further including:

determining at least one relational word of the program title; and

replacing the at least one relational word with a representative character.

Claim 4 (Previously Presented): The method of claim 3, further including:

determining at least one essential word of the program title;

determine the number of characters necessary to display the at least one essential word;

and

abbreviating the at least one essential word if the number of characters necessary to display the at least one essential word is greater than the specified number of characters.

Claim 5 (Currently Amended): The method of claim 3, wherein in addition to removing the less descriptive word, the method further includes:

determining a plurality of essential words of the program title;

determining the number of characters necessary to display the plurality of essential

words; and

removing an essential word if the number of characters necessary to display the plurality of essential words is greater than the specified number of characters.

Claim 6 (Previously Presented): The method of claim 21, wherein the at least one nonessential, nonrelational word comprises all of the words selected from the group consisting of adverbs, adjectives, prepositions, and articles.

Claim 7 (Original): The method of claim 4, wherein the at least one essential word comprises all of the words selected from the group consisting of subject, object nouns, and verbs.

Claim 8 (Original): The method of claim 5, wherein an essential word occurring most frequently in a database is removed.

Claim 9 (Currently Amended): A machine-readable medium containing instructions which, when executed by a processor, cause the processor to perform a method, the method comprising:

determining at least two meaningful words in a program title, wherein each of the at least two meaningful words appears at least once in a database;

determining a less descriptive word from the at least two meaningful words based on a frequency ~~that with which~~ each of the at least two meaningful words appear in ~~a~~ the database;

selectively removing the less descriptive word from the program title to create an abbreviated program title; and

displaying the abbreviated program title in a program title field of an onscreen program guide.

Claim 10 (Canceled).

Claim 11 (Previously Presented): The machine-readable medium of claim 9, wherein further comprising instructions for:

determining at least one relational word of the program title; and

replacing the at least one relational word with a representative character.

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Claim 12 (Currently Amended): The machine-readable medium of claim 11, further comprising instructions for:

determining at least one essential word of the program title;

~~determine~~ determining the number of characters necessary to display the at least one essential word; and

abbreviating the at least one essential word if the number of characters necessary to display the at least one essential word is greater than the specified number of characters.

Claim 13 (Currently Amended): The machine-readable medium of claim 11, further comprising instructions for:

determining a plurality of essential words of the program title;

~~determine~~ determining the number of characters necessary to display the plurality of essential words; and

removing an essential word if the number of characters necessary to display the plurality of essential words is greater than the specified number of characters.

Claim 14 (Previously Presented): The machine-readable medium of claim 22, wherein the at least one nonessential, nonrelational word comprises all of the words selected from the group consisting of adverbs, adjectives, prepositions, and articles.

Claim 15 (Original): The machine-readable medium of claim 12, wherein the at least one essential word comprises all of the words selected from the group consisting of subject, object nouns, and verbs.

Claim 16 (Original): The machine-readable medium of claim 13, wherein an essential word occurring most frequently in a database is removed.

Claim 17 (Currently Amended): An apparatus comprising:

a memory;

a processor configured to, upon execution of one or more computer readable instructions stored in the memory, perform a method comprising:

- (a) determining at least two meaningful words in a program title, wherein each of the at least two meaningful words appears at least once in a database;
- (b) determining a less descriptive word from the at least two meaningful words based on a frequency that with which each of the at least two meaningful words appear in ~~a~~the database; and
- (c) selectively removing the less descriptive word from the program title to create an abbreviated program title; and

a display device configured to display the abbreviated program title in a program title field of an onscreen program guide .

Claim 18 (Canceled).

Claim 19 (Previously Presented): The apparatus of claim 17, wherein the processor is further configured to:

parse the text of the program title;  
determine at least one nonessential, nonrelational word of the program title;  
remove the nonessential, nonrelational word from the program title;  
determine at least one relational word of the program title; and  
replace the at least one relational word with a representative character.

Claim 20 (Previously Presented): The apparatus of claim 17, wherein the processor is further configured to:

parse the text of the program title;  
determine at least one nonessential, nonrelational word of the program title;  
remove the nonessential, nonrelational word from the program title;  
determine at least one relational word of the program title; and  
replace the at least one relational word with a representative character.

determine at least one essential word of the program title;

determine the number of characters necessary to display the at least one essential word; and

abbreviate the at least one essential word if the number of characters necessary to display the at least one essential word is greater than the specified number of characters.

Claim 21 (Previously Presented): The method of claim 1, wherein in addition to removing the less descriptive word, the method further includes:

parsing the text of the program title,

determining at least one nonessential, nonrelational word of the program title; and removing the nonessential, nonrelational word from the program title.

Claim 22 (Previously Presented): The machine-readable medium of claim 9, further comprising instructions for:

parsing the text of the program title,

determining at least one nonessential, nonrelational word of the program title; and removing the nonessential, nonrelational word from the program title.

Claim 23 (Previously Presented): The apparatus of claim 17, wherein the method further comprises:

parsing the text of the program title,

determining at least one nonessential, nonrelational word of the program title; and removing the nonessential, nonrelational word from the program title.

Claim 24 (Previously Presented): The apparatus of claim 17, wherein the apparatus is a set-top box.

Claim 25 (Previously Presented): The apparatus of claim 17, wherein the apparatus is a head end.

Claim 26 (Previously Presented): The apparatus of claim 24, wherein a satellite transmits a signal to a satellite dish connected to the set-box, which is connected to a television.

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Claim 27 (Previously Presented): The apparatus of claim 26, wherein the television is the display device.

Claim 28 (Previously Presented): The method of claim 1, wherein the database includes a database of program titles.

Claim 29 (New): The method of claim 1, wherein the at least two meaningful words include a first word and a second word, wherein the first word appears in the database with a greater frequency than the second word and wherein determining a less descriptive word from the at least two meaningful words includes determining that the second word is the less descriptive word.

Claim 30 (New): The method of claim 29, wherein the second word is determined to be the less descriptive word in response to determining that the first word appears in the database with a greater frequency than the second word.